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CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

INFORMATION REPORT

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COUNTRY	East Germany	REPORT NO.	<div style="border: 1px solid black; width: 80px; height: 20px;"></div>
SUBJECT	East German Demonstrations in Saxony	DATE DISTR.	6 August 1953
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1. The demonstrations in Goerlitz began with the workers at VEB Iowa Waggonbau, Goerlitz, who were joined by the entire population of the town. The prison was opened and all prisoners released.
2. At Bitterfeld, Agfa-Wolfen and the Elektrochemisches Kombinat stopped work for three days. There was a heavy riot between the Volkspolizei and Soviet troops on the one hand, and the people. A policeman who shot a 13-year-old boy, was beaten to death by a mob.
3. The demonstration at Dessau was rather subdued. Soviet troops fired warning shots. When tanks appeared, the mob dispersed only to reappear in another place. On 23 June 1953, there was a general sit-down strike in all factories and the workers only returned to their tasks when Soviet troops stood over them with weapons.
4. At the VEB RFT Dralowidwerk in Teltow there was no work done on 23 June 1953. Numerous arrests were made.
5. In Leipzig, there were local strikes as early as 15 June 1953. The general movement only began on 17 June 1953. There was major sabotage at Bleichert und Co. (SAG Transmasch) and the Deutsche Kugellagerfabrik. Several persons were shot by the Soviets and the arrests numbered about four hundred.
6. The demonstration in Magdeburg was well planned. The HO stores were compelled to lower their prices. The prison in Halberstaedterstrasse was stormed and all political prisoners released.

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